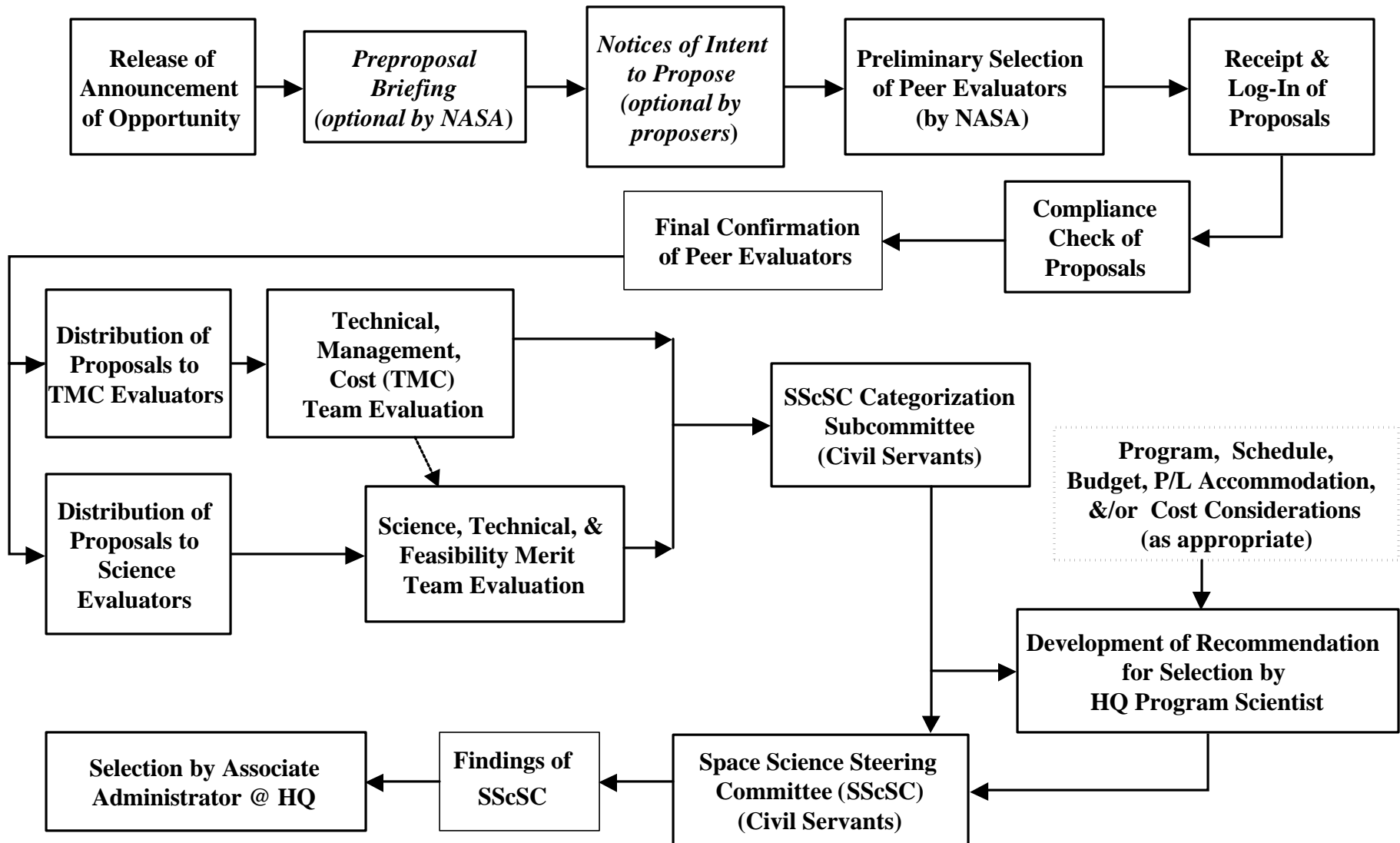


# AO Proposal Evaluation & Selection Process



## **DEFINITION OF PROPOSAL CATEGORIES**

**Category I:** Well-conceived and scientifically and technically sound investigations pertinent to the goals of the program and the AO's objectives, and offered by a competent investigator from an institution capable of supplying the necessary support to ensure that any essential flight hardware or other support can be delivered on time and that data can be properly reduced, analyzed, interpreted, and published in a reasonable time. Investigations in Category I are recommended for acceptance and normally will be displaced only by other Category I investigations.

**Category II:** Well-conceived and scientifically or technically sound investigations that are recommended for acceptance, but at a lower priority than Category I.

# **DEFINITION OF PROPOSAL CATEGORIES**

(continued)

**Category III:** Scientifically or technically sound investigations that require further [*technology*] development. [*Only if specified in the AO*] Category III investigations may be funded for development and [*regardless if funded or not*] may be reconsidered at a later time for the same or other opportunities.

**Category IV:** Proposed investigations that are recommended for rejection for the particular opportunity under consideration, whatever the reason.